

**CLAIMS:**

1 Sub A2 1 Device for transferring data between two workstations connected to a network, characterized in that it comprises means for distributing said data among a plurality of links of said network.

2. Device according to claim 1, characterized in that it comprises a memory for storing said data.

3. Device according to claim 2, characterized in that said memory is a dual port memory.

4. Device according to claim 2, characterized in that it comprises:

- high speed interface for transmitting said data from a workstation to said memory,

- associated with each link, a low speed interface for transmitting a part of said data from said memory to said link, and

- a controller for monitoring the data flow between said workstation and said plurality of links, by controlling said memory and said interfaces.

5. Device according to claim 4 characterized in that, said high speed interface receiving data at an initial rate equal to the sum of the rates at which low speed interfaces transmit on the network, two at least of said low speed interfaces run at different rates.

1           6. Device according to claim 5 characterized in  
2           that, each said low speed interface running at a rate  
3           which is a fraction of said initial rate, all said  
4           fractions having a common denominator and at least one of  
5           said fractions being irreducible, the data flow is  
6           cyclically distributed among said low speed interfaces in  
7           such a way that each low speed interface receives a  
8           number of consecutive bytes from said flow equal to the  
9           numerator of its associated fraction.

1           7. Device according to claim 4, characterized in  
2           that at least one of said low speed interfaces comprises  
3           means for establishing a connection with a modem.

1           8. Device according to claim 7, characterized in  
2           that said high speed interface comprises means for  
3           transferring said data with a modem.

1           9. Device according to claim 2, characterized in  
2           that it comprises:

3           - associated with each link, a low speed interface  
4           for transmitting part of said data from said link to said  
5           memory,  
6           - a high speed interface for transmitting said data  
7           from said memory to a workstation, and  
8           - a controller for, in a first state, monitoring the  
9           data flow between said plurality of links and said  
10           workstation by controlling said memory and said  
11           interfaces.

1           10. Device according to claim 9 characterized in  
2           that, said high speed interface receiving data at an

3 initial rate equal to the sum of the rates at which low  
4 speed interfaces receive from the network, two at least  
5 of said low speed interfaces run at different rates.

1 11. Device according to claim 10 characterized in  
2 that, each said low speed interface running at a rate  
3 which is a fraction of said initial rate, all said  
4 fractions having a common denominator and at least one of  
5 said fractions being irreducible, the data flow is  
6 cyclically distributed among said low speed interfaces in  
7 such a way that each low speed interface receives a  
8 number of consecutive bytes from said flow equal to the  
9 numerator of its associated fraction.

1 12. Device according to claim 9, characterized in  
2 that at least one of said low speed interfaces comprises  
3 means for establishing a connection with a modem.

1 13. Device according to claim 12, characterized in  
2 that said high speed interface comprises means for  
3 transferring said data with a modem.

1 14. Device according to claim 9, characterized in  
2 that:

3 - said high speed interface is provided for  
4 alternately transmitting other data from said workstation  
5 to said memory,

6 - each said low speed interface is alternately  
7 provided for transmitting a part of said other data from  
8 said memory to said link,

9 - said controller, in a second state, monitoring the  
10 data flow between said workstation and said plurality of

links.  
Add A3